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TO
LAWYER SCARLETT.

*On the Trial of Mr. John Hunt,
for Printing and Publishing
Lord Byron's Poem on King
George the Third.*

Kensington, 22d January 1824.

LAWYER SCARLETT,

I HAVE read, in some of the newspapers, heavy censures on the jury for giving, in this case, a verdict of *guilty*. Upon a careful reading of the whole of the report of the trial, I do not blame the jury, but *you*; that is to say (for I must mind what I am about), I do not pretend, that you did not do *your best*; but, I do think, that you might have done (or, at least, that I could have done) a *great deal better*; and this I shall now endeavour to show, when I have made two or three preliminary remarks, which may be necessary to some of my readers.

This was a prosecution by the

Bridge-street Association, for what was called a libel on the late King, being a writing calculated to give pain to the present King and other Members of the Royal Family. The alleged libel was contained in a Poem of Lord BYRON'S, published in a work called the Liberal, the publisher of which was this Mr. JOHN HUNT. Mr. ADOLPHUS was the lawyer for the Bridge-street Society; and you were the lawyer for Mr. HUNT. I shall insert, from the Morning Chronicle, an account of the Trial. I shall not insert the indictment; but shall insert all those parts of the poem which were particularly dwelt upon, and also the whole of Mr. Adolphus's speech. When I have done that, I shall make such observations as occur to me, relative to your "*defence*" of Mr. Hunt.

" Mr. ADOLPHUS commenced by saying that his Learned Friend had stated the nature of the libel now brought under the attention of the Jury: it was a libel on the memory of His late Majesty; the law of England protected the memory and the fame of the dead,

as well as the peace, the security, and the rights of the living. The libel to which he had to call their attentions had, in his apprehension, all the bad qualities of the worst of libels—it was scandalous—it was false—it was disloyal—it was infamous; he knew not what could be said either in the way of explanation or of defence; he knew, indeed, that it might be said, and he anticipated that it would be said, that a prosecution of a libel reflecting on the memory of the late King, and affecting the feelings of the present Sovereign and of his family, ought to have been taken by the King's Attorney-General; such an argument might be expected from a quarter where it was more an object to throw censure upon the conduct of the opposite party than to vindicate the conduct of themselves; with that he had nothing to do. The Gentlemen of the Jury knew very well that there were many cases affecting His Majesty, affecting his family, which the Law Officers of the Crown might have reasons not to prosecute; but were the loyal subjects of His Majesty to be bound up in silence? had they no right to feel—and feeling, had they not a right to complain? The question for the Jury was, not whether the prosecution was commenced by one of the Law Officers of the Crown, or by any other subject of His Majesty. The question was, had the defendant the opportunity of a fair trial—had he an opportunity of making his defence? Was he brought into that Court under circumstances that might interrupt the course of that defence, and operate so as to produce injustice? The contrary was the case. In the first place, no crimi-

nal information had been filed against the defendant; his case in the first instance had been submitted to a Grand Jury; next, he had not to meet and to oppose on his trial the great weight, the power and talents of the Attorney-General. An humble Advocate was selected to state the case for the prosecution, whilst the defendant wisely retained a gentleman of great learning and talents. Again, there was another advantage at the side of the defendant; had the Attorney-General brought forward the case, he would have the right of reply, even though no witnesses might be examined for the defendant; if, as he suspected it might turn out, that the defendant would abstain from going into evidence, his advocate would have the last word. These were no slight advantages—he noticed them to show that the defendant had no just cause of complaint on the ground of the present not being a Crown prosecution. If the persons who had felt it their duty to institute that prosecution should turn out to be mistaken in their views—if the learned advocate of the defendant should be able to show that they had fallen into a mistake, and that the article in question was not a libel, grossly reflecting on the memory of the late King, no man would more heartily rejoice at the explanation than himself. The Jury were aware that His late Majesty, King George III., died in the year 1820, after a war of unexampled length had been recently concluded. Before his death, and for some years previous, the hand of Heaven had lain heavily upon him; he was full of sufferings and infirmities; he had been deprived of his fa-

culties, he was old, he was blind, he had been deprived of the use of that understanding which had been so long an ornament to his country, and a benefit to his subjects. Such was the calamitous state of His late Majesty, when the hand of death put a period to his earthly sufferings; and such were the distressing points which the libeller selected for heartless ridicule and atrocious calumnies. If (not to speak of His late Majesty)—but if any individual had for years pursued a course of animosity towards another, and at length ended his life so full of calamities and sorrows—in the eyes of a generous enemy his sufferings and his fate would excite nothing but compassion and sympathy. Quite contrary, however, seemed to be the feelings of the libeller in question: he selected, he dwelt upon those topics which were most likely to pain His present Majesty, the other members of the Royal Family, and, indeed, every honourable and loyal man. For a considerable time after the accession of the late King, the current of public affairs took a direction which brought many attacks on his person and on his private affairs; but, as the personal virtues of His Majesty became known, as the clouds that had been raised began to dissipate, his enemies were obliged to change their ground—his personal feelings were respected as his virtues were admired. The publication in question was commenced early in the year 1822; it was brought out under the title of *The Liberal; Verse and Prose from the South*. It assumed a popular title—a name calculated to conciliate the favour of every

individual whose feelings were supposed to run in the right course; but he (Mr. Adolphus) believed that, on a more near examination, the title *Liberal* would be found, in the opinion of the sound, the loyal, and the moral part of the community, not so deserving. About 150 years ago, "Liberal" was used to express the character of a man adverse to religion, indifferent to morals, and unrestrained in conduct; such was the picture of a "Liberal" 150 years ago, and such, with little variation, did it now turn out to be. He was a Liberal, whose acts and whose principles were opposed to settled Institutions, to public morals, and to the cause of religion. The Liberals of the South kindly came forward to elevate the imaginations, to improve the morals, and to correct the understanding of the people of England; and it was fit that it should be known, that the publication was sent forth by men to whom distance gave security, and whom indifference to character made brave; they were out of the hands of the law; they therefore were not restrained from attacking the feelings of the living, or from ransacking the sepulchres of the dead. The libel he complained of was put forth in the shape of a Poem called *The Vision of Judgment*. In that poem the author assumes and represents himself to be at the gates of heaven, and the transactions which he pretended to have witnessed there he described with a degree of levity and of impiety which was really astonishing; he fancied himself almost in the presence of his Creator, and he assumed a tone fit only for a pot-house revel,

and which would certainly disgrace the company of any gentleman. Such a publication—honest free-born Englishmen, who, whatever might be their difference of opinion on particular subjects, retained a reverence for Christian worship, a solemn belief of eternity, and a solemn awe of the sacred presence of the Creator—such a publication, so full of ridicule, of levity, and of impiety, must ever stand condemned. He alluded to this point, because, although it did not form the charge in the indictment, yet, as the book was to be handed up to the Jury, it was his duty to express his opinion of its impiety, his horror of the levity with which were described those awful scenes of judgment which were to take

place after this world should pass away. He could not, had not this poem met the public eye—he could not have believed that any English writer—any enlightened man who could boast of the freedom of his country—any man who had ever heard of Christianity—would, as it were, on the very floor of heaven, treat with licentious levity those awful things under which the mighty muse of Milton had crouched—such rashness—such impiety, afforded an apt illustration of a line of one of our poets:—

“And fools rush in where angels
fear to tread.”

The Learned Gentleman next proceeded to animadvert on the poem. The poem opened with the following passage:—

“Saint Peter sat by the celestial gate,
His keys were rusty, and the lock was dull,
So little trouble had been given of late;
Not that the place by any means was full,
But since the Gallic era, ‘eighty-eight,’
The devils had ta’en a longer, stronger pull,
And ‘a pull altogether,’ as they say
At sea—which drew most souls another way.

“The angels all were singing out of tune,
And hoarse with having little else to do,
Excepting to wind up the sun and moon,
Or curb a runaway young star or two,
Or wild colt of a comet, which too soon
Broke out of bounds o’er the ethereal blue,
Splitting some planet with his playful tail,
As boats are sometimes by a wanton whale.

“The guardian seraphs had retired on high,
Finding their charges past all care below;
Terrestrial business fill’d nought in the sky
Save the recording angel’s black bureau;
Who found, indeed, the facts to multiply
With such rapidity of vice and woe,
That he had stripp’d off both his wings in quills,
And yet was in arrear of human ills.

“His business so augmented of late years,
That he was forced, against his will, no doubt,
(Just like those cherubs, earthly ministers,)
For some resource to turn himself about,
And claim the help of his celestial peers,
To aid him ere he should be quite worn out
By the increased demand for his remarks;
Six angels and twelve saints were named his clerks.

" This was a handsome board—at least for Heaven :
 And yet they had even then enough to do,
 So many conquerors' cars were daily driven,
 So many kingdoms fitted up anew ;
 Each day too slew its thousands six or seven,
 Till at the crowning carnage, Waterloo,
 They threw their pens down in divine disgust—
 The page was so besmear'd with blood and dust."

After this, one of the parties present is made to give the following account of His Majesty :—

" In the first year of freedom's second dawn
 Died George the Third ; although no tyrant, one
 Who shielded tyrants, till each sense withdrawn
 Left him nor mental nor external sun :
 A better farmer ne'er brush'd dew from lawn,
 A worse King never left a realm undone !
 He died—but left his subjects still behind,
 One half as mad—and t'other no less blind."

" He died !—his death made no great stir on earth ;
 His burial made some pomp ; there was profusion
 Of velvet, gilding, brass, and no great dearth
 Of aught but tears—save those shed by collusion ;
 For these things may be bought at their true worth :
 Of elegy there was the due infusion—
 Bought also ; and the torches, cloaks, and banners,
 Herald's, and relics of old Gothic manners,

Form'd a sepulchral melo-drame. Of all
 The fools who flock'd to swell or see the show,
 Who cared about the corpse? The funeral
 Made the attraction, and the black the woe,
 There throb'd not there a thought which pierced the pall ;
 And when the gorgeous coffin was laid low,
 It seem'd the mockery of hell to fold
 The rottenness of eighty years in gold."

Such was the account—such the observations of the writer on the character, the sufferings, and death of a Sovereign, who had been justly called the father of his people. The poem went on to describe the bustle that took place on the appearance of George III. ; after which the Archangel is represented as requiring to know if any person had any accusation to make against him ! Upon which Satan prefers his complaint as follows :—

" He came to his sceptre, young ; he leaves it, old :
 " Look to the state in which he found his realm,
 " And left it ; and his annals too behold,
 " How to a minion first he gave the helm ;
 " How grew upon his heart a thirst for gold,
 " The beggar's vice, which can but overwhelm
 " The meanest hearts ; and for the rest, but glance
 " Thine eye along America and France !

" 'Tis true, he was a tool from first to last ;
 " (I have the workmen safe) ; but as a tool
 " So let him be consumed ! From out the past
 " Of ages, since mankind have known the rule
 " Of monarchs—from the bloody rolls amass'd
 " Of sin and slaughter—from the Cæsars' school,
 " Take the worst pupil ; and produce a reign
 " More drench'd with gore, more cumber'd with the slain !
 " He ever warr'd with freedom and the free :
 " Nations as men, home subjects, foreign foes,
 " So that they utter'd the word ' Liberty !'
 " Found George the Third their first opponent. Whose
 " History was ever stain'd as his will be
 " With national and individual woes ?
 " I grant his household abstinence ; I grant
 " His neutral virtues, which most monarchs want ;
 " I know he was a constant consort ; own
 " He was a decent sire, and middling lord.
 " All this is much, and most upon a throne ;
 " As temperance, if at Apicius' board,
 " Is more than at an anchorite's supper shown.
 " I grant him all the kindest can accord ;
 " And this was well for him, but not for those
 " Millions who found him what oppression chose.
 " The new world shook him off ; the old yet groans
 " Beneath what he and his prepared, if not
 " Completed : he leaves heirs on many thrones
 " To all his vices, without what begot
 " Compassion for him—his tame virtues ; drones
 " Who sleep, or despots who have now forgot
 " A lesson which shall be re-taught them, wake
 " Upon the throne of Earth ; but let them quake !
 " Five millions of the primitive, who hold
 " The faith which makes ye great on earth, implor'd
 " A part of that vast all they held of old,—
 " Freedom to worship—not alone your Lord,
 " Michael, but you, and you, Saint Peter ! Cold
 " Must be your souls, if you have not abhorrd
 " The foe to Catholic participation
 " In all the license of a Christian nation.
 " True ! he allow'd them to pray God ; but as
 " A consequence of prayer, refused the law
 " Which would have placed them upon the same base
 " With those who did not hold the saints in awe."
 But here Saint Peter started from his place,
 And cried, " You may the prisoner withdraw.
 " Ere Heaven shall ope her portals to this Guelf,
 " While I am guard, may I be damn'd myself ! "

After reading these passages, the Learned Gentleman proceeded to say, that he thought the Jury could not have the smallest doubt of the publication being a gross libel. The motives of the author it was not necessary to inquire

into ; it was not necessary for the Jury to ascertain whether he entertained personal hostility towards George III. or George IV. it was enough for the Jury to know, that the effect of the publication was to throw contempt upon the Royal

Family, and upon those who were attached to them—to make the enemies of His late Majesty rejoice—and to fill the bosoms of his illustrious successor and of the rest of his Royal Family with sorrow and affliction. The defendant at the bar, although not the author, had lent himself to those who conducted the publication, which was so justly deserving of condemnation; the libel, it seemed, came from the South of Europe, and it certainly was no small aggravation, that, after travelling so great a distance, it was coolly and deliberately put forth to the public. The individual to whom it was ascribed, was an author of distinguished talents, whose name might stand high in the literature of his country; he might have stood first in the literature of any age; if he were the author, then it was to be lamented that he had fallen so low—that he should have so degraded his fine talents, that he should have so tarnished his laurels as to have descended to the level of the mean and odious reptiles of the day, and with them indulged in levity, scurrility, and impiety; he had only to hope, that in time his great talents would redeem him, and that he might yet become the ornament and the glory of the literature of his country. If it should be said that the libellous passages which he had last read to the Jury, were not seriously calculated to reflect on the memory of His late Majesty, because they were put into the mouth of the enemy of mankind, he was sure the Jury would be at no loss; that such an excuse would amount in fact to a mere flimsy disguise; lies such as were there stated

were indeed worthy the father of lies, but they were not the less deserving animadversion. He was ready to admit to his Learned Friend, that the character of Kings belonged to history, and if even an extraordinary latitude of discussion, of censure, were required, it might in this free country be safely taken; but it was not because the character of Kings was matter of history, that therefore the character of Sovereigns was to be given up without mercy to the fangs of a libeller. If any person thought fit to describe the country to be in a sinking state—to impute to the Sovereign that he had found it flourishing, and that he had left it in ruins—those charges would be fairly subject to the test of critical inquiry. If it were true that the Sovereign were a man indifferent to the welfare of his people—that he had enjoyed effeminate pleasures amid the tears of his people—that (pursuing the course of history) he became a mean and abject vassal to the See of Rome; that the flames of persecution had spread in his reign; that favourites, who ministered to his pleasures, enjoyed his favour; then would he be ranked amongst the worst of the Roman Emperors, and all honest men would turn with loathing from his name; but if, as in the case of His late Majesty—an affectionate son, a fond parent, the impartial magistrate, the firm advocate for that form of religion which he had sworn by his Coronation Oath to maintain—if he were abstinent, moral, temperate, an object of respect and veneration, was it to be endured that burning calumnies were to be heaped upon his memory? If the

Jury entertained those views, if they held the publication to be a gross libel, he trusted that no eloquence, no arts of address, would prevent them from doing the duty which they had sworn to perform. The libel had been published for more than two years, but that the case had not been sooner brought under the discussion of the Court, was not the fault of the prosecutors; they attended sitting after sitting, but this case, like all others, was destined to take its course. It might be said, that the thing had gone by, and that it was now neither wise nor necessary to revive it. The object of the prosecutors was not vengeance, but example. If a libel of the description before them was suffered to pass by unnoticed, unpunished, would that not give the most fearful encouragement to other libellers? With those observations he would leave the case to the Jury: His late Majesty had been for sixty years the father of his people. But were it not his memory that had been so attacked—were it the memory of an ordinary person that had been traduced, as Englishmen, who hoped to enjoy an honourable name, the fair reward of honourable conduct, would not the Jury interpose to secure the fame of any honest man—would they not interfere to prevent his ashes from being raked up, to save his memory from dishonour, and his family from affliction? Without further remark, he would leave the case to the Jury; it was for them to deal with it. He endeavoured to discharge his duty, he had no doubt but that they would conscientiously discharge theirs.

Mr. Adolphus proceeded to call his witnesses.

John Purdon: I know the house, 22, Bond-street; I went there on the 2d of December, 1822; it is a bookseller's shop; I saw the defendant John Hunt; I bought *The Liberal* of the defendant; I paid for it; there were a great many more copies.

By Mr. SCARLETT: This is the very copy; I saw the person sitting before you there; I am an officer belonging to Bow-street; I bought a copy for Mr. Murray, and for Mr. Maule; Mr. Stafford employed me to get the copy for Mr. Maule, that was before I bought for Mr. Murray; Mr. Stafford directed me to buy *that* copy; I saw Mr. Murray in his own house, Johnson-street, Bedford-row, he is not Solicitor to the Treasury; Mr. Murray paid me for loss of time; he did so several times before; Mr. Stafford always employed me; I understand he is an attorney; I believe he purchased for the purpose of prosecution; don't know who employed him; don't know whether he is a member of the Constitutional Association, or their attorney; I have been paid too at other times by Mr. Sharp; I never saw Sharp and Murray together; I might have seen them together in Court in the very case in which Sharp paid me; I believe I did. Was Sharp a Manchester bankrupt?—

Mr. ADOLPHUS objected.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE thought this begged the question.

Mr. SCARLETT: I only want to know what is to become of Mr. Sharp? [a laugh.]

Witness: I can't tell whether Mr. Murray is attorney for the Constitutional Association; I be-

lieve he is; I have not that I remember, been employed to buy a book called "Southey's Vision of Judgment." I have read part of that book.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE wished Mr. Scarlett to point out a passage.—Mr. SCARLETT read the passage—(Asmodeus carrying Southey up.)

Witness: I never read that, nor heard Mr. Murray read it.

Mr. SCARLETT next read Stanza 102:—

"He ceased (Southey) and drew forth
a MS; and no

Persuasion on the part of devils, or
saints,
Or angels, now could stop the tor-
rent; so

He read the first three lines of the
contents;
But at the fourth, the whole spiritual
show

Had vanished, with variety of scents,
Ambrosial and sulphureous, as they
sprang

Like lightning, off from his 'melo-
dious twang.'"

Witness: I never read it or heard Mr. Murray read it. I don't know that the poem was written in ridicule of Southey's poem.

Mr. SCARLETT asked if he knew these two lines—

"But stuck fast with his first hex-
ameter,
Nor one of all whose gouty feet would
stir."

Witness: I did not.

Mr. SCARLETT: Do you know what an hexameter means?—
I believe I am an hexameter.
[loud laughter.]

Mr. ADOLPHUS proposed the passages charged to be read.

Mr. SCARLETT thought the whole must be read.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE said, the best way would be to have the passages charged as libellous read first, and compared with the record, and then the whole could be read, if Mr. Scarlett wished it.

Mr. SCARLETT agreed, and looked at the record while the passages in the indictment were read.

Mr. SCARLETT then desired the whole to be read, though he regretted to have his Lordship detained so long.

Mr. ABBOTT rose, and read slowly and audibly the whole of the poem. The following description of Mr. Southey's Address excited much laughter:

He said—(I only give the heads)—he said,
He meant no harm in scribbling; 'twas his way
Upon all topics; 'twas, besides, his bread,
Of which he butter'd both sides; 'twould delay
Too long the assembly (he was pleased to dread)
And take up rather more time than a day,
To name his works—he would but cite a few—
Wat Tyler—Rhymes on Blenheim—Waterloo.

He had written praises of a regicide;
He had written praises of all kings whatever;
He had written for republics far and wide,
And then against them bitterer than ever;
For pantisocracy he once had cried
Aloud, a scheme less moral than 'twas clever.
Then grew a hearty antijacobin—
Had turned his coat—and would have turn'd his skin.

He had sung against all battles, and again
 In their high praise and glory; he had called
 Reviewing "the ungentle craft," and then
 Become as base a critic as ere crawl'd—
 Fed, paid, and pamper'd by the very men
 By whom his muse and morals had been maul'd:
 He had written much blank verse, and blanker prose,
 And more of both than any body knows.

He had written Wesley's life:—here, turning round
 To Sathan, "Sir, I'm ready to write your's,
 "In two octavo volumes, nicely bound,
 "With notes and preface, all that most allures
 "The pious purchaser; and there's no ground
 "For fear, for I can choose my own reviewers:
 "So let me have the proper documents,
 "That I may add you to my other saints."

— Buckmaster was called,
 and spoke to the identity of Mr.
 Hunt.—Cross-examined: I am
 an army clothier; I read *The*
Liberal; I am not a subscriber to
 the Association; I am called by
 Mr. Murray here.

MR. SCARLETT: And only to
 say you know Mr. Hunt?—Yes.

MR. SCARLETT: God bless me!
 I thought it was to give your opi-
 nion of this poem?—No.

MR. ADOLPHUS closed his case."

This was the charge against
 Mr. Hunt. I shall say nothing
 about the *religion* of the poem;
 nor shall I say any thing about
 the character of the Author or the
 Publisher. What I have to do
 with is, *your manner of defending*
Mr. Hunt.

The Jury cared, I imagine, very
 little about your law of libel;
 about your pretty distinctions be-
 tween public libel and private
 libel, in the case of a dead per-
 son. The thing to be done was
 to give a short and true account
 of the late King's reign, as that
 reign affected the nation. The
 Jury wanted to be satisfied that it
 was a bad reign for the country;

and that was all that they wanted
 to induce them to acquit Mr.
 HUNT. The Jury, was, for the
 far greater part, a *Common Jury*;
 so that there could be no partiality
 in the selecting of them. They did
 not like the publication. They
 thought it was unjust; and, whe-
 ther it were or not, you said no-
 thing to show that there was any
 thing like good ground for the
 publication. To plain men your
 distinctions about danger of ex-
 citing to a *breach of the peace* in
 private cases, and the existence
 of no such danger in a case like
 this; to plain men these distinc-
 tions were wholly out of place:
 the doctrine about exciting to a

breach of the peace is as fabulous as any thing belonging to the heathen Mythology. What the Jury were looking after, was this, *whether the deeds of the late reign were or were not such as those described by the poet*; and, therefore, it was your business to give them an account of those deeds.

Upon the supposition, that the Jury were men under fifty years of age, it is about a thousand to one, that eleven out of the twelve had never doubted, for one single moment, that the late reign was one of the best that the nation ever knew. For more than thirty years out of the fifty, it has been one principal part of the business of almost the whole of the press, to hoodwink and deceive the people as to the acts of the Government. That man must be a very fortunate one, who has remained uninfluenced by this base, this servile, this corrupt, this lying press; and by all the tricks and contrivances, such as jubilees, battles on the Serpentine River, Dibdin's songs, and Gilray's caricatures.

If we look at the means that have been made use of to deceive the mass of the people; if we think of the millions that have been expended for purposes of this sort; if, in short, we do but look at the London press, how are

we to wonder, though nine-tenths of the people were actually to believe in the reality of that which even the sycophant SOUTHEY gives them only as a vision?

You did, indeed, say *something* about the events of the late reign; but, what did you say, nothing, as far as I can perceive, calculated to make an impression upon the mind of the Jury; something about *Wilkes and liberty*, just as interesting, at the present time, as a tale relating to the reign of King John. The first American war you could not very well omit; but not a word about what we *now* feel of the consequences of that war; and not a word about the second American war, infinitely more disastrous than the first, and leading more immediately to great and fatal consequences. Amongst the things which you might have mentioned are the following:

1. The *great national lie*, that the *judges were made independent of the Crown, by the late King*. Ninety-nine hundredths of the people believe this assertion to be true. I have heard it bragged of ever since I can remember any thing. We frequently see it stated in the newspapers, as a matter of course; with few exceptions, the whole nation be-

lieves the thing to be true. But, as I said before, it is one of our *great national lies*. There was an Act passed in the first year of the reign of the late King; but this Act only prevented the judges from ceasing to be judges upon the death of a king. So that, it is curious enough that this so much bragged of Act only made the judges that the late King should appoint *continue to be judges after his death*; or in other words, only *enabled him to appoint judges for his successor*! What this could do towards making the judges *independent of the Crown*, the greater part of plain men will, I imagine, find it very difficult to discover. If, indeed, an Act had been passed to prevent the promotion of judges, the raising of them from a lower to a higher station, the making of them Lord Chancellors; the *augmenting of their salaries and pensions*: if an Act of this sort had been passed, there might have been some ground for the bragging. I have seen the salaries and allowances of judges twice augmented. I do not find fault of the augmentation in itself, for so diminished was the value of money, that the judges without augmentation of salary could

not have gone the circuit without being supported as a sort of paupers; but while the power of augmenting salaries remained, was it not a despicable farce to extol the Act of making the judges merely not removable by the death of a king? This great piece of national property, this great public lie was a thing to mention upon this occasion, in order to show the Jury, that they might, by possibility, have sucked down other lies, respecting the late King and his reign.

2. The first American war, which raised the debt of the country to nearly double what it was when the King came to the throne; which took from England a large part of her dominions; which covered the English army with disgrace; which, by taking Hanoverians, Hessians, Brunswickers, and all manner of German troops to America, filled the people of that country with hatred implacable against us; which war has caused a *powerful military marine* to be created, the sole object of which marine, and its natural tendency are, to humble, degrade and ruin England. At this moment we feel the effects of that war. This whole

kingdom will finally be brought into imminent peril in consequence of German troops having been hired and sent out to America at the expense of England.

3. When the King came to the Throne, in the year 1760, the amount of the National Debt was *one hundred and forty-six* millions of pounds. When he died, in 1820, that debt, including the Dead Weight debt, was *more than a thousand* millions; and, observe, the Dead Weight debt grew out of a war, or rather, wars, against *Revolutionary Government*, when it is notorious, that we are now arming in favour of revolutionary Government. The whole of the present debt; the whole of the more than a thousand millions of debt, except a hundred and forty-six millions, was contracted during the late King's reign; and yet Mr. ADOLPHUS praises that reign.

4. Not content with two long and bloody wars against the revolutionists of France. The late reign, not content with those long and destructive wars, must needs have a second war with the United States of America. In two regular battles on the

lakes, we lost two whole fleets in combats with our former colonies. On the high seas, when the force happened to be any thing like equal, we fared very little better. And, as to the military fights of that war, the very mention of *New Orleans* ought to fill every Englishman's breast with indignation. Defeat and disgrace equal to this never was, I believe, experienced by any nation in the world. You, Mr. Lawyer SCARLETT, thought it for the *good of your client*, to sing the long train of glories of the "*Hero of Waterloo*." You forgot to mention the hundreds of thousands of hired foreign troops, and the hundreds of millions of English money (yet *unpaid*), engaged in getting us those glories. You thought it for the good of your client to mention these glories of the late reign, while you said not a word (lest it should hurt your client I suppose), about the mortal thumpings of Plattsburgh and New Orleans. Now, I, Lawyer SCARLETT, should have dwelt a good deal upon these mortal thumpings of the late reign. I should have said something about the thousands upon thousands of dead and dying creatures that the Yankees laid

sprawling upon the earth: I should have said something about the defeat and capture of two of our fleets on the lakes, and of frigate after frigate on the ocean; and these, too, observe, during a war, undertaken with the professed object of *maintaining the right of search*, and which war ended in a treaty of peace, which *said not one single word about the right of search!* However, the seventy millions of money, which this war cost, and the thumpings incomparable which it brought upon our backs—But, stop: here were *no glories in this war*. Your “hero of Waterloo” did not go to America to add a little bunch to his great bundle of laurel. On the Continent of Europe we had hundreds of thousands of foreigners; we had Spaniards and Portuguese, we had Austrians and Russians, we had Prussians and Dutch, and, above all things, Hanoverians; we had all these to share in our glories on the Continent of Europe. But whatever we gained in America was *all our own!* It all belonged exclusively to the late “glorious reign,” for having satirized which, your client was so severely censured by Mr. ADOL-

PHUS, and which censure, I, for my part, can discover, in your speech no attempt to remove. To come back now to where I stopped, the seventy millions of money that this war cost; all the thumpings incomparable which it brought us: these are nothing, when compared to the ultimate consequences. This war actually created an American navy, which goes on increasing at a rate that sets all calculation at defiance. The newspapers which you might have had before you in the Court, tell us that a member of the Congress at Washington proposed, about five weeks ago, a resolution for the building of *ten new sloops of war*. This resolution was agreed to without any opposition. The mover of the resolution had no scruple to say that he meant it as a means of *preparing the American navy for war*. A glorious reign it was, then, which gave rise to this navy, an object of far greater danger to England, than all the other objects that she ever had to contemplate. Enormous as must be the expense of maintaining our fleet in future, it will be impossible for us to maintain a fleet equal to the fleets of Ame-

rica and France, unless by some immediate warlike exertion, we put a stop to the growth of this American fleet; so that the very least of the evils which the late glorious reign has brought upon us, by its Transatlantic wars, is *another war*, more terrible than any former war; and this, too, while we have a debt, under which we can hardly stagger along, in time of profound peace.

5. The *principles* of the late reign are now receiving their illustration. During the first American war, the Government, which was under the King, whom the author of Wat Tyler and Joan of Arc, has *placed in heaven*; during the first American war the treasure and the blood of England were poured forth to put down the principles, that *taxation and representation ought to go together*. This principle was called *Revolutionary*, and more than a *hundred millions of money* were expended to put it down. Thirteen most flourishing and happy colonies made another part of the cost: but, let us, for the present, keep to the money. Here were more than a hundred millions expended to keep down

revolutionary and representative government. The next enterprise against representative and revolutionary government, were the wars against the revolutionists of France. Next came the war which one of the Lords of the Admiralty said, was for the deposing of JAMES MADDISON, to which others added, that the war was necessary, in order to put down an "example of successful *democratical* rebellion." Who can doubt, then, that the whole of the debt and dead weight; that the whole of the nine hundred millions and upwards; who will pretend to deny, that the whole of this enormous debt, with the exception of a hundred and forty-six millions, which was the total amount of the debt when the late King came to the throne; who will affect to deny, that we owe this enormous debt, which, the other day, held us chained down to the earth, while the French marched and took possession of Cadiz; who will deny that we owe the whole of it to the efforts made under the Government of the late King; to the efforts made under the man, whom SOUTHEY has blasphemously brought into conversation with

God Almighty; who will deny that we owe the whole of this evil, to the efforts made to crush, or to prevent the existence of, revolutionary, representative, and democratical government? Not a man living, who has any regard for truth or decency, will deny this. Will any man of truth say, that the whole reign, from the *battle of Lexington*, in 1774, to the *battle of Petersfield* at Manchester, in the year 1819; will any man of truth and honour say, that the whole of that reign was not one continued, one unbroken, battle against representative government; one incessant, most violent and bloody war against the principle, that the people have a right to choose their own rulers, and especially those that lay taxes upon them. From the battle of Lexington to the battle of Petersfield, this was the great struggle of the reign. Gracious God! what sufferings has this struggle occasioned; what rivers, literally what rivers of blood has it caused to flow! And now; now what is the commentary that the Government of the present King is pronouncing upon the object of that struggle! This Government is *arming*: that is notorious. If

we are to believe its advocates, and, indeed, if we are to believe what is generally taken for granted, this Government is arming, not for the purpose of self-defence; not for the purpose of defending England against attack; not for the purpose of asserting any right or maintaining any point of honour of our own; not for the purpose of sheltering any ally from the aggression of injustice; not for any of these purposes; but (hear it you who censure the censurers of the late reign!), but, for the purpose of stirring up, of abetting, of supporting, of maintaining the cause of, subjects in open revolt against their Sovereign, and in open revolt, too, not on account of any alleged injury, experienced at the hands of that Sovereign; but on the explicitly alleged ground of the right, which the revolvers have to cast off their present Sovereign, and to choose, those rulers and that sort of Government, to which they themselves have a fancy! That this is the fact, no man of truth will deny. For four-and-forty years from the battle of Lexington to the battle of Petersfield, did the late reign incessantly fight against the representative prin-

ciples ; and, if our Government now do that, which every one believes it is about to do, English treasure and English blood are now to be called forth for the support of this very principle. The late reign saw a *Foreign Enlistment Bill*; a thing never heard of in the world before ; so eager was it to keep down the representative principle ; and, yet, we now behold armaments for aiding, abetting, supporting (as all the nation believes) those very insurgents, to prevent whose success that Bill was passed ! Either, therefore, the present preparations for war are everything that is monstrous and outrageous ; or, what are we to say of the character of the late reign ? And what are we to say of the sycophant SOUTHEY, who has introduced the chief of that reign to a familiar chat with the Almighty ? Are we all to remain mute ? Is no man to dare to express his contempt of the author of such marks of servility and baseness ?—It has been pretended, that we are not preparing to support insurgents ; but to prevent attacks upon Governments which are independent *de facto* ! Fine excuse : notable shuffle : just

as if France were not independent *de facto* in 1793, and Spain in 1823. But, the fact is that the Spanish Colonies, and particularly Mexico, which is more than one half of the whole, *has no Government at all*. This is now acknowledged on all hands, and yet, we are preparing for war, to support the independence of Mexico, after forty-four years of war against the representative principle ; a war that began, as I said before, at *Lexington*, and ended at *Petersfield*.

6. Amongst the consequences of this long and terrible war against the representative principle, has been the gradual increase of the misery of the great body of the people. When the late King came to the throne, the poor-rates of England and Wales amounted to little more than *one million a year* : when he died, they amounted to eight millions a year. When he came to the throne, it was difficult to find a labourer so poor as not to brew his own beer : when he died, to find a labourer brewing his own beer was become a thing of extreme difficulty ; and, in scores of parishes

there was hardly one such man to be found. General misery has been the effect of the wars of the late reign. This misery has, by means of a depreciated paper-money, arising out of the stoppage at the Bank protected by the Government; by chop-pings and changes backwards and forwards with regard to the value of money; by these means the misery, which was at first confined to the poor, have reached all the ancient families of the country; and have thrown a large part of the estates into the hands of stock-jobbers and loan-jobbers, unquestionably amongst the most worthless and despicable of mankind. The blasphemous SOUTHEY introduces the late King to a chat with God Almighty. He makes him the hero of "*social order*;" but he does not make him tell how the measures of his reign laid the sure foundation of that revolution which is now silently going on.

7. One part of a good reign would naturally be, its preservation of the ancient and mild laws of a country. *Trial by Jury*, which has been regarded as one, at least, of the bulwarks of our freedom, was, during the late

reign, taken away, in cases without number. The Jury might have been told, that Magna Charta says, that no man shall be punished, except by consent of his Peers; and that probably there were a thousand enactments, during the late reign, exposing men to punishment without such consent of their Peers. For a considerable part of the reign this punishment without assent of Peers was confined to imprisonment, whipping and the like; but at last came forth the terrible law, authorizing justices of the peace with a king's counsellor, and *without any jury at all*, to transport, in certain cases, Irishmen for seven years! Mr. SOUTHEY does not introduce this matter into his celestial chit-chat. And *for what* might Irishmen thus be transported? For being idle and disorderly persons; and what is the *proof* of being an idle and disorderly person? You shall hear: "And be it further enacted, That all persons found assembled in any proclaimed district, in any house, licensed or unlicensed, in which malt liquors or spirituous liquors are sold, not being inmates thereof or

"travellers, after the hours of
 "nine at night and before six
 "in the morning, *shall be deem-*
"ed idle and disorderly per-
"sons." For this they may be
 transported without Trial by
 Jury. Another crime for which
 they may be thus transported,
 is, "being found out of their
 "dwelling house, at any time
 "from one hour after sunset,
 "until sunrise." There is
 liberty! There's "envy of sur-
 rounding nations and admiration
 of the world!" Many and many
 were the years in which the
 whole of the people of England,
 Ireland and Scotland, were ex-
 posed to imprisonment at the
 pleasure of the Ministers of the
 late King; but, it was not till
 the year 1807 that we actually
 saw transportation without Trial
 by Jury; and that, too, for the
 mighty offences before men-
 tioned. It would be curious
 to inquire a little into any of
 the *grievances that the people*
of the Spanish Colonies may
have. If we be arming to take
 those people out of the hands of
 the Sovereign, would it not be
 well to inquire whether he have
 ever shut them up in their houses
 from sunset to sunrise? and
 whether they be ever transport-
 ed without Trial by Jury?

Until we ascertain something
 relative to these matters, it
 might be as well for us to keep
 our armaments to ourselves.
 At any rate, as Mr. SOUTHEY
 gives a place in heaven to the
 King, under whose authority
 men were transported without
 Trial by Jury, it certainly
 becomes us to speak with cau-
 tion in censuring the conduct of
 the King of Spain.

8. When the late King came to
 the throne, the heaviest punish-
 ment, which the law inflicted on
 a poacher was a penalty of five
 pounds, or three months im-
 prisonment at the utmost, in lieu
 of the penalty. During his
 reign this law grew harder and
 harder. Long imprisonment,
 severe whipping, compulsion to
 serve as soldier or sailor, and
 thus to be sent out of the king-
 dom; and, last of all, came
transportation! Transportation
for what? For being in pur-
 suit of wild animals. This ter-
 rible punishment naturally pro-
 duced resistance; and hence
 murder in the field or the wood,
 and not unfrequently hanging
 on the gallows. In the county
 of Wilts, at the last Quarter
 Sessions, there were a *hundred*
and fourteen prisoners, im-

prisoned in the gaol for a limited time. Out of these hundred and fourteen prisoners, *fifty-three* are imprisoned for poaching. This is a monstrous fact, to be sure. Such proportion scarcely extends to all the counties. But, my real opinion is, that the persons imprisoned for poaching are now constantly more than three times the number of all the prisoners confined in the gaols when the late King came to the throne. These several game laws (all of the late reign), have caused not a small number of persons to die, by the gun or by the gallows. When Mr. SOUTHEY was taking the late King up into heaven, he should not have forgotten these poor poachers and game-keepers. They would have made a goodly group, with their split skulls and bleeding sides and stretched necks, one of them might have gone at the head of the procession, carrying Lord ELLENBOROUGH'S Act, in the same style that the Free Masons carry the Bible. Mr. SOUTHEY, with his ready muse, would easily have provided him with a suitable symphony for the occasion. One thing we must allow to the late King's reign; namely, an immense

enlargement to the mad houses and the gaols. Most of the counties have lunatic asylums. And as to the gaols, these are now the grandest edifices in England. The Protestant religion has this to boast of at any rate; if it has shown a want of taste in neglecting to preserve the buildings of monasteries, it has shown wonderful taste and equal liberality, in the erection of gaols and penitentiaries. The use of this last word, shows that these buildings which we vulgarly call prisons, are a species of Protestant Convents; and that we should be unjust not to look upon the endowment of them as a proof of the *piety* of the late reign.

9. Before the late reign, there was a great deal of talk, at least, against *standing armies*. There was said to be no standing army in England, in time of peace. This has all been cast aside; and not only is there a standing army in time of peace; not only are the soldiers kept separate from the people by being put into Barracks, in despite of what Blackstone says to the contrary; but these barracks are spoken of as a regular part of the Govern-

ment of the country ; and they are such part of the Government. When the late King came to the throne, there was scarcely such a thing as a barrack in the kingdom ; and who, at that time, ever dreamed of seeing in England, an establishment like that at Sandhurst : a school for *training up children to become Military Officers when men* ? a school which must necessarily cut them off from the people at large : a school, in short, tending to produce all those effects, which BLACKSTONE represents as being wholly incompatible with civil liberty. It is well known how fondly this school was cherished during the late reign. It is well known how it was caressed and dandled ; and with regard to the motive, he must be a brute indeed, that can have a doubt. As to the soldiers, how stand the people with regard to them ? Why thus ; if any man do that, which may be interpreted into an attempt to *seduce a soldier from his duty*, such a man is *liable* to be hanged ! Thus there exists, in the midst of us, a body of men of this description ! This is England, to be sure ; but Mr. SOUTHEY will hardly attempt to say that it is Old England. What would have been said, if any one, when the late King came to the throne, had predicted that a law like this would ever exist in England ; and that while the law should be actually in existence, the Government would be arming to sally forth in the Rights of Man !

10. Foreign troops used to be looked upon as persons not to set foot in England, even if driven by wind or weather. After the first American war was over, a great fuss was made about landing a few Hessians, who had come back from America, and who could not sail up the river Elbe on account of the ice. They were, at last, suffered to land, and to stay on shore till the Northern rivers were navigable. I myself saw some of these Hessians in Kent ; and I remember what a deal of big talk there was about the constitution ; their glorious constitution, which was so very nice upon the subject of foreign troops. Little did I, at that time, imagine, that I should see a complete German army, horse, foot and artillery, *established in England for years* ; and for many years, too ; little did I imagine that I should see, not only foreign troops stationed in this kingdom ; but foreign officers bearing commissions in English regiments ; German officers commanding Englishmen and English officers ; and, still less did I imagine that I should see, English counties, English districts, under the command of German generals ; that is to say, the whole of the troops and the whole of the officers in certain districts of England, militia as well as regulars, receiving their daily orders and commands from German generals. Yet I did see all this. I saw all this in the late reign, and if Mr. SOUTHEY has neglected to relate it, in his Vision of Judgment, he must have had very little taste. What

a fine figure the *German Baron Generals* would have cut in the procession, carrying all their banners and orders of knight-hood, and having the English nobility and gentry pulling off their hats to them, and waving their swords to them in obedience! This German army, you will say, is an *old story*; and besides, the army is *gone now*: we have *got rid of it*. Faith, but we have not; and that I will show you presently; and that I would have shown the Jury. SOUTHEY puts the King in heaven; but, he should have given in the bill at the same time. The late reign might be celestial; but it cost us something; and it costs us something yet, as the following item will show. "For defraying the charge of half-pay and reduced allowances to the officers of disbanded foreign corps, of pensions to wounded officers, and of the allowances to the widows and children of deceased foreign officers: 129,750*l*." So that here is this little charge, of *only* a hundred and thirty thousand pounds a year to these Germans, of one sort and t'other, who are now, I dare say, snugly at home in Germany, spending our money for the glory of England and the benefit of Germany. This hundred and thirty thousand pounds a year is as much as *seven thousand* English labourers' families, or *thirty-five thousand* English labouring people, get to live upon. The Magistrates in Norfolk allow a man, his wife and three children, five shillings and tenpence a week to live upon. That is to

say, about fifteen pounds a year; so that we send abroad to these foreigners, for half-pay and allowances to them, their wives and children, as much money as would support, according to the Norfolk bill of fare, *forty-three thousand three hundred and thirty English labouring people*! Now pray, Mr. SOUTHEY, don't forget that in your next edition of the heavenly Vision.

11. Need I say more? Is not this enough? I must observe, however, in the way of conclusion, that the law of the late reign, which punished with hanging, ripping up and quartering, the *crime of sending a bushel of potatoes to France*, ought not to have been forgotten in the heavenly Vision; and that I beg leave to recommend to Mr. SOUTHEY to bring forward in his next edition, OLIVER and EDWARDS; the former drest in long white robes, carrying open before him a copy of the *New High Treason Law*, made during the last reign, for the special protection of, and only *during the life of*, His late Majesty. EDWARDS, drest in like manner, may bear against his breast of purity a copy of the *very last Act of His Majesty's reign*: that Act which punishes with *banishment for life*, any man who shall a second time be convicted of having written, printed or published, any thing having a TENDENCY to bring His Majesty into contempt!

12. I thought I had done; but I must not pass over Mr. ADOLPHUS's story about the *Coro-*

nation Oath. It is pretended, that, to admit the Catholics to sit in Parliamest, that to give the Royal Assent to a law like this, would be to violate the Coronation Oath. Shocking hypocrisy! During the late reign, an Act was passed to remove the penalty awarded to an *impugning of the Holy Trinity*. This totally changed the law as it existed when the King mounted the throne. This was *vital*, as to a matter of religion. Here was a change which authorized men to *deny the Divinity of Jesus Christ*. Yet, the King could give his assent to this law; a law which actually tolerated men to speak openly against Christianity itself; but, when to remove some of the political disabilities of the Christians of Ireland, who had, in spite of two hundred years of persecution, adhered to the religion of their and our forefathers, when this was the object sought, the *Coronation Oath* became an obstacle! Though that oath, as I have said before, did not prevent the passing of a law to permit men openly to deny the Divinity of Christ!

I say no more, Mr. LAWYER SCARLETT, though, if I had a mind, I might proceed to forty times the length; and that, too, with merely taking a glance at each topic. I am not to be made believe, that a quarter part of what might have been said would not have been more than sufficient for my purpose.

WM. COBBETT.

AMERICAN TREES AND SEEDS.

UPON examining my seeds, I find that I have got acorns of the *White Oak*, the *Black Oak*, the *Yellow Oak*, and the *Chesnut Oak*; that I have some *Chesnuds*, some *Black Walnuts*, some *Hickory Nuts*, and some stones of the *Wild Cherry*. The *White Oak* and the *Chesnut Oak* acorns are so much speared, that I am afraid to send them to any distance. There are some few that have not started yet, and these may serve to make up parcels for those gentlemen who have ordered trees, and for whom I have not got the trees. I will, therefore, contrive to send them acorns instead. I cannot, however, promise to furnish any body else with any assortment of these seeds. I should only cause disappointment and chagrin, by sending the things to be bruised about and spoiled. Nothing is more difficult than to get the thin shelled acorns in a sound state. I do not believe that I have one out of five that is not either speared or originally defective. The thick shelled ones come pretty well; but unless I could make the assortments complete, I could do nothing worth doing. I must, therefore, content myself with doing what I mentioned above.—The weather now appears to be likely to remain open. All the orders that I have actually received, I think I can fully execute, with regard to the *Locust Trees*; and as to the other trees, I shall, as I observed before, make up the deficiency with seeds. *White Oaks*, *Black Oaks*, *Chesnuds*, *Occidental Planes*, and

Wild Cherries. I am out of plants of these sorts, but, in the execution of the orders, I will send seeds instead of plants, and a great many for one. I believe I am pretty nearly out of Hickories also. If that should be the case, I will send seeds instead of plants here also—I said, a week or two ago, that I was afraid that my Locusts were all bespoke. Since that, I have discovered, that I had twenty thousand more than I thought I had. I sowed them at Kensington and had them planted in a field last May. I never counted them, and now find that I have the above number more than I expected. However, I am certain that I cannot supply any more than what I have orders for. If any number should fall short, I shall, without any regard to other circumstances, proceed upon a fair principle, of first come, first served. I think I have about two hundred Apple Trees left.—I have not re-commenced, since the frost, sending away trees. The weather is wet, which is very unfavourable to the removing of trees. Nothing will be lost by a little delay.—I beg Gentlemen to have the goodness to excuse the blunders that my people commit. The wonder is, not that they commit blunders, but that they sometimes avoid it. They are wholly unused to the business. I shall, at all times, be ready to make good any deficiencies, and to pay the carriage out of my own pocket. I know what it is to meet with disappointment, in matters of this sort, and can, therefore, feel for other people.

Since the publication of my last Register, I have received the following very interesting letter

upon the subject of the Locust Tree. I should be sorry to see any gentleman bestow a moment's time upon a malignant creature like GOURLAY; but, in this case, his malignity has drawn forth something truly valuable to the public. I will insert the letter first, and then take the liberty to point out a particular fact or two relating to it.

“SIR,—Having, by chance, seen the Morning Herald, dated January the 3d, I find in it an extract of a letter from R. GOURLAY to you, wherein he says, ‘In America the Acacia (meaning the Locust Tree) may yield timber hard and tough, in England soft and brittle. The fact that it grows rapidly and flowers when young when in England, is a symptom that it will not prove durable when put to use.’ He further says, ‘That having travelled from Canada through various routes to New York, he never saw the Locust Tree indigenous.’ This gentleman must be very little acquainted with the Locust Tree. Having lived in America for many years, I take leave to acquaint you with some facts in regard to this tree. About the year 1772, I visited a small farm near Boston (the Bunker's-hill side), owned by a Mr. Robert Temple, who had the only plantation of Locust Trees in New England, perhaps in America; he had ten thousand Locust Trees of his own planting, in a very thriving state, valued at 1*l.* per tree; and the plants all grew naturally, and were taken off from his farm. Joseph Harrison, a man of very superior information, was at this time collector of His Majesty's Customs at Boston, and I have often heard him give his opinion that it would be a national benefit if the growers of timber in England could be induced to plant the American Locust Tree.

"I never heard what become of Mr. Temple's beautiful, and what promised to be, very valuable plantation; and think it might have suffered from the soldiers in the neighbourhood, as the battle of Bunker's-hill took place in 1775. This might be ascertained, as Mr. Temple was as well known as any gentleman in Massachusetts, and a descendant from one of the regicides who made their escape to America.

"Joseph Harrison, after the American revolution, published a Memoir in regard to the American Locust Tree, in the Edition of *Evlyn's Sylva*, by Dr. Hunter.

"I have been in many parts of New England, and every where saw the Locust Tree grow naturally, and have often seen it encroach on land which had been cleared of wood, and have recommended to the owners to have it rooted up, but they uniformly agreed it was better to let it stand, as its leaves enriched the soil more than those of any other tree. I have seen it grow in as dry and poor land as can be possibly conceived, and put out shoots of above three feet in a year.

"I have known 10*l.* currency given in Connecticut for a Locust Tree transom of a ship, when any other timber, of the same size, which grows there, might be had for less than 1*l.*

"I never experienced so great a difference in the fruit and timber grown in England and America, as Mr. Gourlay represents. The timber of the apple, in both countries, are similar, and used for the same purposes. The apple called the New Town Pippin is of very fine flavour in America, but I think I have eat apples equally good in flavour which grow in England, from a graft of an American tree.

"I have compared the timber of the Locust Tree grown in England (I see Locust grow daily) with that

grown in America, and cannot discover the least difference; and I think it is the best that can be grown in England for trunnels of ships (I believe Mr. Harrison calls them treenails), or any other purpose which requires very hard and tough timber.

"*An Old Resident in America.*"

The transom of a ship is the great timber which holds the two sides together in the hinder part or stern. Those who have been on board of a merchant ship, know that there is a great timber which goes across the back part of the cabin, against which there is generally a seat or bench. This timber is a very important one, to be sure. I know that the transoms in the American ships were made of Locust, when Locust was to be got; but I had forgotten it when I wrote my Essay on the Locust. —But, the curious part of this letter is, that Mr. HARRISON, a King's Collector of Customs at Boston, should have written, should have given it as his opinion, so long ago as the year 1775, that it would be a *national benefit* for this tree to be cultivated in England; and that he should have written and published a Memoir upon the subject in Doctor Hunter's edition of *Evlyn's Sylva*. I have not this edition of *Evlyn's Sylva*; and should like very much to know whether the memoir be there. It is very curious, that Miller, and that so many persons should have borne testimony to the excellence of this wood; and that they should, all together have wanted the power to cause it to be cultivated, though amidst the woods of America there were *plantations* of it fifty years ago. But, it was pretty much the same

with regard to the *Swedish turnip* in America. When I came out with my great wagon loads of turnips at New York: "Oh!" said a man, "this is *nothing new*. I have grown the turnip here for these *thirty years*." Plenty of people grew it in their gardens; but I made it, and at ONCE TOO, a field plant, cultivated, from Canada and the North of New Brunswick, down to the borders of the Gulf of Mexico; and I have, in this very house at Kensington, received a letter from a gentleman, in the neighbourhood of New Orleans, telling me, that, from seed got from my son at New York, he has crops of Swedish turnips to the amount of forty tons to the acre, in a country where no man dreamed that the plant would grow, and, certainly, where it never was seen before. The truth is, that I know *how to make things move*; and that is enough. Another man might have written about the thing to all eternity; and his *writing* might have been much better than mine; but very few men could, like me, have made the thing move. You must find a man, if you can, that would stick some ugly old posts into a carriage by the side of him, and drive himself and them through the streets of New York, with every body staring at him. You must find a man with zeal and taste enough for the thing to do this; and to lug the posts about with him from house to house, and from country to country; and to do this, too, without being at all certain that he shall ever get

any body to listen to him. You must find a man like this, and that will go poking about amongst seeds and roots, the moment he gets away from his books, and that likes such poking about better than his dinner; and you must have, at the same time, a man, who, to some powers of statement, description, and persuasion, adds, in the collection and marshalling of his proofs, the scrupulousness and the skill of a lawyer. That's your man, for such a job; and where do you find him, except in William Cobbett?

The blackguards of the London press will call this *egotism*. They always accuse me of that after they have been abusing me for a long time, and compelled me to speak in my defence. Egotism or egotism not, however, they shall see that I will perform these two things; drive Leghorn bonnets out of England, and bring Locust Trees into it. I intend to have about next September, at Kensington, the most beautiful collection of young trees that ever was seen in England. Amongst other things, I will get, if I can, an *Olive*, that I may have a branch to offer to the Gentlemen of the London press. They shall all come to see my garden, provided they come one at a time, and provided they abjure the Jewish blasphemy before they step over the threshold. I really should like to make peace with any of them that are Christians; but the number of these, is, I am afraid, very small.

MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN throughout ENGLAND, for the week ending 10th Jan.

<i>Per Quarter.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Wheat	57	4
Rye	40	1
Barley	30	3
Oats	21	0
Beans	35	4
Peas	35	6

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, 10th Jan.

<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>£.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Wheat .. 9,587 for 30,030	12	9	Average, 62	7	
Barley .. 8,098	13,860	7	7	34	2
Oats .. 9,077	12,735	17	9	26	3
Rye 97	221	13	6	45	8
Beans .. 2,400	4,529	13	0	37	8
Peas 2,016	3,929	4	6	38	11

Friday, Jan. 16.—The arrivals of all sorts of Grain this week are only moderate. Wheat meets a ready sale, and obtains rather higher prices than on Monday. Barley sells well and supports the terms last quoted. Beans and Peas are rather dearer. Oats find buyers on much the same terms as at the commencement of the week.

Monday, Jan. 19.—There was a very considerable arrival of all de-

scriptions of Grain, with a great quantity of Flour, last week: The fresh supplies of this morning consist chiefly of moderate quantities of Wheat, Barley, Beans and Peas, from Essex, Kent, and Suffolk, and a good quantity of Oats from the northern ports. There was a good trade for Wheat at the early part of this morning, and sales were made at an advance of 2s. to 3s. per quarter on the terms of last Monday, but the trade afterwards became heavy, and the advanced prices were hardly supported.

Barley for Malting sells on much the same terms as this day se'n-night, but good grinding Barley is rather dearer. Beans sold freely at a further advance of 2s. per qr. Boiling Peas are 1s. per qr. higher. Grey Peas are 2s. per qr. dearer. Oats have obtained rather more money than last Monday, but the sale of this article has not been very extensive to-day. Flour remains unaltered.

Prices on board Ship as under.

Wheat, red, (old) ..	64s. to 67s.
— white, (old) ..	50s. — 76s.
— red, (new) ..	44s. — 50s.
— fine ..	52s. — 56s.
— superfine ..	57s. — 63s.
— white, (new) ..	48s. — 52s.
— fine ..	54s. — 63s.
— superfine ..	64s. — 68s.
Flour, per sack ..	54s. to 60s.
— Seconds ..	48s. — 53s.
— North Country ..	44s. — 48s.

Account of Wheat, &c. arrived in the Port of London, from Jan. 12 to Jan. 17, inclusive

Whence	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Beans.	Flour.
Aberdeen .....	...	...	...	110	...	...
Aldbro'	738	2102	...	128	200	30
Alemouth .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Arundel .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Berwick	250	...	...	740	...	80
Boston .....	...	...	...	4315	...	...
Bridport .....	...	38	...	...	...	...
Bridlington .....	...	...	...	950	...	8
Carmarthen .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Clay .....	...	90	...	...	...	320
Dunbar .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dundee .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Exeter .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Colchester	278	310	360	...	156	2275
Harwich	703	462	340	...	147	133
Leigh } Essex.	1184	135	...	225	373	200
Maldon .. }	753	824	375	...	256	1766
Gainsbro' .....	...	...	...	...	...	305
Grimsby .....	...	...	...	729	...	...
Hull .....	...	...	...	3800	...	171
Hastings .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inverness .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ipswich	1209	1385	1853	...	129	580
Kent	1248	1415	538	225	333	1781
Louth .....	...	...	...	740	...	...
Lynn	674	...	1073	245	247	323
Montrose .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Newcastle .....	...	...	...	218	...	...
Scarborough .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spalding	40	...	...	414	...	...
Stockton .....	...	...	...	490	...	2120
Southwold	473	640	...	10	129	...
Weymouth	10	291	11	...	...	...
Whitby .....	...	...	...	50	...	...
Wisbeach	510	...	...	852	...	...
Woodbridge	186	173	23	20	52	310
Yarmouth	120	2402	4681	...	...	5823
Cork .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dublin .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Waterford .....	...	...	...	...	...	...
Foreign .....	...	...	...	...	...	2606.
Total	8421	10267	9254	14261	2022	16225. 2606.

Aggregate Quantity of other kinds of Pulse imported during the Week:
Rye, 541; Pease, 1360; Tares, 40; Linseed, 7637; Rapeseed, 4;
Brank, 1724; Mustard, 138; and Seeds, 313 quarters.

SEEDS, &c.

Price on board Ship as under.

	s.	s.
Clover, red, Foreign per cwt	58	100
— white, ditto .. ditto ..	63	96
— red, English, ditto ..	60	110
— white, ditto .. ditto ..	75	105
Rye Grass	per qr...	16 36

Turnip, new, white .. per bush.	10s.	12
— red & green .. ditto ..	10	14
— yellow Swedes ditto ..	9	11
Mustard, white	ditto ..	7 11
— brown	ditto ..	8 14
Carraway	per cwt	50 52
Coriander	ditto ..	10 12
Saufoin	per qr...	28 36

	s.	s.
Trefoil per cwt	17	35
Ribgrass ditto ..	15	34
Canary, common .. per qr...	38	40
— fine ditto ..	42	52
Tares per bush.	5	8
Hempseed per qr...	44	48
Linseed for crushing		
Foreign ditto ..	36	34
— fine English		
for sowing ditto ..	40	53
Rapeseed, 26 <i>l.</i> to 28 <i>l.</i>		
Linseed Oil Cake, 12 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 13 <i>l.</i> per 1000		
Rape Cake, 5 <i>l.</i> to 5 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per ton.		

City, 21 January 1824.

BACON.

The eagerness of the agents of the manufacturers to effect sales has produced what they did not expect or wish—a very serious fall in price. The usual consequences of giving exorbitant prices at the beginning of a season, are likely to be experienced upon this occasion. On board, 45*s.* to 47*s.*—Landed, 48*s.* to 50*s.*

Note.—In our last week's report, after the words "*an abundance of fat Hogs,*" the word *here* is inserted instead of the word *there*.

BUTTER.

The great advantage possessed by the Dutch merchants in consequence of the superior quality of their Butter, has set the Irish to work to devise the means of competing with them; and, if we are rightly informed, they have discovered the means. Several consignments have lately been made to this market, in casks properly prepared to hold *pickle*, which has kept the *outside of the Butter* in so clean and perfect a state, that the inferior qualities packed in this way have been preferred before the *firsts* shipped in the ordinary way. This is one of the benefits arising from *competition*. Some years ago the Dutch Butter was sent to this market in a very dirty state; but the

Dutch people soon found out a remedy; and for a long time have enjoyed the very best prices in this market. The *English* dairymen and factors must now bestir themselves.—The trade is very dull.—On board: Carlow, 90*s.* to 92*s.*—Belfast, 88*s.* to 90*s.*—Dublin, 84*s.* to 86*s.*—Waterford, 82*s.* to 84*s.*—Cork or Limerick, 82*s.* to 84*s.*—Landed: Carlow, 88*s.* to 92*s.*—Belfast, 90*s.*—Dublin, 84*s.*—Waterford, 78*s.* to 84*s.*—Cork or Limerick, 82*s.*—Dutch, 82*s.* to 92*s.*

CHEESE.

Very little demand for Cheese here; but the factors are buying briskly in the country, and at such prices as they will be very fortunate if they get back.

Price of Bread.—The price of the 4*lb.* Loaf is stated at 10*d.* by the full-priced Bakers.

SMITHFIELD, Monday, Jan. 19.

Per Stone of 8 pounds (alive).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef	3	4	to	4 2
Mutton.....	3	4	—	4 2
Veal.....	4	6	—	5 8
Pork.....	4	0	—	4 8
Beasts ...	3,125		Sheep ...	22,580
Calves	130		Pigs	200

NEWGATE (same day).

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef.....	2	6	to 3	6
Mutton.....	2	8	— 3	8
Veal.....	4	0	— 6	0
Pork.....	3	4	— 5	4

LEADENHALL (same day).

Per Stone of 8 pounds (dead).

	s.	d.	s.	d.
Beef.....	2	0	to 3	6
Mutton.....	2	8	— 3	10
Veal	3	4	— 5	8
Pork.....	3	0	— 5	2

POTATOES.

SPITALFIELDS.—per Ton.

Ware	£ 2 5 to £3 15
Middlings.....	1 15 — 2 0
Chats.....	1 15 — 0 0
Common Red..	0 0 — 0 0

BOROUGH.—per Ton.

Ware.....	£ 2 5 to £3 15
Middlings.....	1 10 — 2 0
Chats.....	1 10 — 0 0
Common Red..	0 0 — 0 0

HAY and STRAW, per Load.

Smithfield.—Hay....80s. to 110s.
 Straw...40s. to 48s.
 Clover 100s. to 126s.

St. James's.—Hay....60s. to 110s.
 Straw...42s. to 51s.
 Clover..90s. to 120s.

Whitechapel.—Hay....80s. to 105s.
 Straw...40s. to 46s.
 Clover 100s. to 130s.

COUNTRY CORN MARKETS.

By the QUARTER, excepting where otherwise named; from Wednesday to Saturday last, inclusive.

The Scotch Markets are the Returns of the Week before.

	Wheat.			Barley.			Oats.			Beans.			Pease.		
	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.	s.	to	s. d.
Aylesbury	54	69	0	30	35	0	22	25	0	32	42	0	38	42	0
Banbury	48	66	0	28	31	0	23	30	0	32	42	0	0	0	0
Basingstoke.....	51	66	0	27	34	0	20	25	0	37	45	0	0	0	0
Chelmsford.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derby	54	72	0	24	40	0	20	30	0	34	48	0	0	0	0
Devizes	48	69	0	24	35	0	19	28	0	38	48	0	0	0	0
Dorchester.....	42	72	0	24	31	0	16	26	0	42	53	0	0	0	0
Exeter.....	56	72	0	24	36	0	14	18	0	32	34	0	0	0	0
Guildford.....	52	80	0	22	36	0	23	30	0	38	44	0	32	42	0
Henley	56	80	0	28	36	0	20	28	0	36	42	0	35	41	0
Horncastle.....	50	61	0	22	34	0	16	26	0	30	42	0	0	0	0
Hungerford.....	48	70	0	23	33	0	18	32	0	32	46	0	0	0	0
Lewes	56	64	0	32	35	0	21	24	6	36	38	0	35	35	6
Lynn	46	62	0	28	35	0	20	24	0	35	40	0	33	40	0
Newbury	52	78	0	23	33	0	19	30	0	38	43	0	35	40	0
Newcastle	46	66	0	28	36	0	20	30	0	44	48	0	30	44	0
Northampton.....	49	60	0	24	30	6	20	24	0	28	40	0	0	0	0
Nottingham	55	0	0	35	0	0	24	0	0	41	0	0	0	0	0
Reading	50	82	0	23	35	0	18	26	0	32	42	0	34	39	0
Sherborne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stamford.....	48	63	0	26	36	0	19	29	0	34	40	0	0	0	0
Swansea	62	0	0	32	0	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Truro	61	0	0	32	0	0	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uxbridge.....	48	75	0	30	35	0	22	28	0	37	43	0	36	40	0
Warminster.....	44	70	0	26	39	0	19	24	0	39	50	0	0	0	0
Winchester	48	72	0	30	35	0	20	26	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yarmouth.....	56	64	0	30	34	0	20	24	0	32	34	0	32	44	0
Dalkeith *	20	34	3	16	25	0	14	23	0	15	20	0	15	20	0
Haddington*	25	35	0	22	26	0	19	24	0	17	21	0	17	21	0

* Dalkeith and Haddington are given by the boll.—The Scotch boll for Wheat, Rye, Pease, and Beans, is three per cent. more than 4 bushels. The boll of Barley and Oats, is about 6 bushels Winchester, or as 6 to 8 compared with the English quarter.

Liverpool, Jan. 13.—Since this day se'nnight there have been some partial sales of Wheat effected at a small advance upon the prices of last Tuesday. Oats, Malt, Barley, and Beans also brought somewhat better prices during that period; but this advance did not apply generally at the market of to-day, which being but thinly attended by either town or country dealers, the advance above noted was but partially obtained. Superfine Flour and Oatmeal, however, found purchasers at 2s. per 240 lbs. beyond the last currency.

Imported into Liverpool from the 6th to the 12th January, 1824, inclusive:—Wheat, 1385; Oats, 7317; Barley, 2633; Malt, 1001; Beans, 215; and Peas, 81 quarters. Oatmeal, 59 packs, per 240 lbs. Flour, 965 sacks; and American barrels, 2000.

Norwich, Jan. 17.—Our Market was well supplied with all sorts of Grain; fine dry samples were eagerly sought after at an advance since this day se'nnight. Wheat fetched from 54s. to 64s.; Barley, 28s. to 35s.; Oats, 21s. to 26s.; Beans, 31s. to 37s.; and Peas, 30s. to 34s. per quarter.

Bristol, Jan. 17.—The Corn market here still continues to be very moderately supplied, and prices may be considered nearly as follow:—Best Wheat, from 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d.; inferior ditto, 5s. to 7s.; Barley, 2s. 9d. to 4s. 9d.; Beans, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; Oats, 2s. to 3s.; and Malt, 4s. 6d. to 7s. 3d. per bushel. Flour, Seconds, 30s. to 50s. per bag.

Birmingham, Jan. 15.—Our supplies are by no means liberal in any article of the trade. Every thing sells freely at the last quotations, and Wheat and Beans at 1s. to 2s. per quarter in advance upon them. The retail price of Flour has again risen 2s. per 14 lbs.

Ipswich, Jan. 17.—Our market to-day was well supplied with all Grain, and higher prices were again asked. Barley was 1s. to 2s., Beans 1s. to 2s., and Peas 3s. per quarter dearer. Prices as follow:—Wheat, 58s. to 68s.; Barley, 28s. to 37s.; Beans, 38s. to 40s.; Peas, 34s. to 36s.; and Oats, 28s. per quarter.

Wisbech, Jan. 17.—We had a brisk market this day for the sale of Wheat, the best runs obtained an advance of full 2s. per quarter; and 1s. on the Second qualities. Oats and Beans were a trifle higher.

Boston, Jan. 14.—This day's market was amply supplied with samples of Grain, which were brisk in demand, and sold as follows:—Wheat, 56s. to 62s.; Oats, 18s. to 23s.; Beans, 32s. to 34s.; and Barley, 27s. to 31s. per quarter.

Wakefield, Jan. 16.—We have a large arrival of all kinds of Grain, also many buyers. Fine Wheats, old and new, fully support last week's prices; the same may be said of inferior samples.—Malting Barley is full 2s. per quarter higher. No alteration in Mealings Oats or Shelling.—Beans, both old and new, are in demand, at an advance of full 2s. per quarter.—Maple Peas are also 2s. per quarter higher.—Malt may be noted 2s. per load of six bushels higher.—In Flour and Rapeseed no alteration.—Wheat, 58s. to 73s. per quarter; Mealings Oats, 13d. to 14d. per stone of 14 lbs.; Shelling, 34s. to 35s. per load of 261 lbs.; Barley, 36s. to 38s.; Beans, old and new, 48s. to 50s.; Maple Peas, 45s. to 48s. per quarter; Malt, 44s. to 48s. per load of 6 bushels; Flour, 54s. to 58s. per sack of 280 lbs.; and Rapeseed, 30% to 32% per last.

Malton, Jan. 17.—The Corn market here appears more lively. The following may be considered as nearly the current prices:—Wheat, 68s. to 74s. per quarter, five stone per bushel. Barley, 33s. to 38s. per quarter, 32 stone. Oats, 12½d. to 13d. per stone.

COUNTRY CATTLE AND MEAT MARKETS, &c.

Norwich Castle Meadow, Jan. 17.—There was a good show of Sheep here to-day, and the weather continuing so very open caused rather higher prices to be obtained than last week.—There was but little business done in the Bullock trade. Pigs were plentiful, and went off well; fat Pigs at 6s. and lean Pigs at 7s. 6d. per stone, of 14 lbs.

Horncastle, Jan. 17.—Beef 6s. 6d. to 7s. per stone of 14 lbs.; Mutton, 5d. to 6d.; Pork 6d. to 6½d.; and Veal 6d. to 7d. per lb.

Bristol, Jan. 15.—Beef 4½d. to 5½d.; Mutton 5d. to 5½d.; and Pork 4½d. to 5d. per lb. sinking offal.

Malton, Jan. 17.—Meat in the shambles:—Beef 4½d. to 6½d.; Mutton 4½d. to 6d.; Pork 4½d. to 5½d.; and Veal 5d. to 7d. per lb. Fresh Butter, 13d. to 14d. per lb.; Salt ditto, 44s. per firkin. Dry Bacon Sides, 6s. 3d.; Hams, 6s. 6d. to 8s. per stone. Fat Pigs, with head and feet on, 5s.; stripped for salting, 5s. 3d. per stone.

At *Morpeth* market on Wednesday, there was rather a short supply of Cattle and Sheep; and a brisk demand caused an advance in price.—Beef from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d.; and Mutton, 4s. 3d. to 5s. 6d. per stone, sinking offals.

At *Wakefield* Cattle Market last week there was a fair supply of Beasts, and the prices of the previous market were fully maintained. The supply of Sheep being small, and the buyers numerous, an advance of ½d. per lb. was obtained.—Beasts, 440; Sheep and Lambs, 8400.

Skipton Fortnight Fair, Jan. 13.—Our Fair to-day was only thinly supplied with fat Beasts and Sheep, and there being a number of buyers, caused a brisk sale, at advanced prices.

Price of HOPS, per Cwt. in the
BOROUGH.

Monday, Jan. 19.—The Hop Market is brisker, particularly for good old 1819 and 1821. Yearling Pockets are scarce and dearer. Currency:—1819 and 1820, 68s. to 80s.; 1821, 90s. to 105s.; 1822, 7l. 15s. to 10l. 10s.; 1823, 8l. to 15l.

Maidstone, Jan. 15.—The Hop trade continues in the same dull state as last week, and we hardly hear of a sale being made. As to the prices we cannot say any thing about them.

COAL MARKET, Jan. 16.

	<i>Ships at Market.</i>	<i>Ships sold.</i>	<i>Price.</i>
50½ Newcastle..	21½	38s. 0d.	to 44s. 3d.
16½ Sunderland..	13	41s. 6d.	—45s. 6d.

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